

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

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FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2261

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SANTIAGO 1131

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CI, PFOR,CU

SUBJECT: CUBAN EXILES VISIT PINOCHET

1. THREE LEADERS OF MIAMI-BASED CUBAN EXILE ORGANIZATION CALLED "COMMITTEE FOR CUBA GOVT. IN EXILE" PAID HALF-HOUR VISIT TO PRESIDENT PINOCHET FEB. 19 THREE IDENTIFIED IN SANTIAGO PRESS AS ALEJANDRO FIDEL VALDES, MAJOR FRANCISCO BATILLI, AND LUIS FUENTES.

2. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, DELEGATION URGED PINOCHET TO RECOGNIZE ANY EVENTUAL CUBAN GOVT. IN EXILE AND INVITED HIM TO MIAMI TO ATTEND RALLY OF "200,000" EXILES WHO BACK GOC. REFERRING TO PRESENT ANTI-GOC "TRIAL"(SIC) IN MEXICO, DELEGATION OFFERED PINOCHET "EVIDENCE" OF FIDEL CASTRO'S "WAR CRIMES" IN CASE GOC SHOULD WISH TO PRESENT CHARGES IN UN OR SIMILAR FORUM. CONCLUDED DELEGATION: "CUBAN EXILES VIEW GEN. PINOCHET AS A HOPE, AS THE ANTI-COMMUNIST LEADER WHO HAS ASSUMED THE LEADERSHIP OF THE DEFENSE OF FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY IN THE ENTIRE HEMISPHERE."

3. PINOCHET WAS CONSIDERABLY MORE CAUTIOUS IN HIS REPLY. HE STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF SEPT. 11 COUP AGAINST ALLENDE, THE FIRM DECISION OF GOC THAT NVER MORE WILL COMMUNISM BE ALLOWED TO CONTROL CHILE'S DESTINY, THE VICIOUS NATURE OF CAMPAIGN BY INTERNATIONAL COMMUNISM AGAINST GOC, AND HIGH GOC ESTEEM FOR CUBAN EXILES. NEVERTHELESS,
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HE LIMITED HIMSELF TO PROMISE OF "FULL STUDY" TO QUESTION

OF RECOGNITION OF ANY EVENTUAL CUBAN GOVERNMENT IN EXILE
AND MADE NO KNOWN RESPONSE TO MIAMI INVITATION.

4. COMMENT: PINOCHET HAS PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED AT LEAST
TWO AWARDS AND OTHER RECOGNITION FROM EXTREME RIGHTWING
INTERNATIONAL GROUPS, BUT HE HAS MAINTAINED A DEGREE OF
DISTANCE FROM THEM.

POPPER

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Message Attributes

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